



Job Description

This form summarises the purpose of the job and lists its key tasks. It is not a definitive list of all the tasks to be undertaken as those can be varied from time to time at the discretion of the School, in consultation with the postholder.

Job title: Research Officer

Ref no.

Department/Division: Personal Social Services Research

Job Summary:

The Personal Social Services Research Unit is a research centre at the LSE. Directed by Professor Martin Knapp, PSSRU undertakes research particularly in the areas of long-term care and mental health economics and policy. PSSRU, along with partners at the Universities of Cape Town and Sussex, has recently been awarded funding from Research Council UK's Global Challenges Research Fund to strengthen responses to dementia in seven middle-income countries. The STRiDE project involves a consortium of partners from these seven countries as well as partnerships with Alzheimer's Disease International and Dementia Alliance International.

PSSRU is seeking to appoint a full-time Research Officer to start in March 2018 to work across a number of research activities within the STRiDE project, including supporting: the development of a Theory of Change approach for the overall study as well as one in each of the seven STRiDE countries; situational analyses in each STRiDE country; research on unpaid carers in three STRiDE countries; implementation of a stigma intervention in two countries; quantitative data collection; and some data analysis and modelling. This is a varied role and will involve working flexibly to support the needs of the STRiDE project.

The Research Officer should be able to work independently within a research team, and will work under the supervision of Adelina Comas-Herrera (Assistant Professorial Research Fellow and STRiDE Academic Project Manager, PSSRU). The Research Officer will also be expected to play an active role in the life and activities of PSSRU.

This appointment is until 31 December 2021 when the STRiDE project is due for completion.

Duties/Responsibilities

The Research Officer will become a key member of the STRiDE project team, working across a number of work packages to support its objective of contributing to improving dementia care, treatment and support systems, initially in the seven STRiDE countries. They will:

- Work with other members of the research team to co-develop a logical Theory of Change map outlining impact and pathways to impact for STRiDE's research and training activities, and over the course of the project evaluate achievements against indicators for success identified through the Theory of Change process
- Support researchers in the seven STRiDE countries to co-develop local country-level Theory of



Change maps in their countries, and over the course of the project support them to monitor and evaluate their achievements against indicators for success identified through the Theory of Change process

- Work with the research team to review and further develop the overall Theory of Change map in light of the country-level Theory of Change maps
- Work with relevant research teams and country researchers to undertake an assessment of current dementia care, treatment and support in the seven STRiDE countries, as compared to the expectation and needs of each country, by carrying out rapid reviews, interviews and supporting focus groups in each country
- Understand the implications from research on unpaid care and stigma within the STRiDE project for quantitative work on the impact and costs of dementia on individuals and their families, and linking up these activities
- Work with the relevant research team to conduct a cost of dementia study using existing data supported by country researchers
- Work with the relevant research team to develop tools to inform dementia policy, tailored to local needs, through a co-development process, including data analysis and modelling to simulate future care needs and implications of implementing/scaling-up evidence-informed care pathways
- Support training activities for researchers in the seven STRiDE countries on research methods or specific dementia research topics as needed
- Contribute to the drafting of reports and papers as agreed with the research team
- Participate as an active member of relevant STRiDE project meetings

The Research Officer will need the ability to analyse and research complex ideas, concepts or theories, and apply appropriate methodologies and contribute creative solutions to address research challenges.

- The Research Officer will contribute to communications and dissemination activities, which may involve:
 - Writing up evidence;
 - Writing up research for publication in a variety of modes including peer-reviewed academic journals and project outlines or summaries for the STRiDE and PSSRU websites;
 - Presenting research papers at conferences and seminars as appropriate;
 - Contributing to the organization of relevant conferences, seminars and workshops as appropriate.
- The Research Officer will undertake activities to further PSSRU's research agenda. Activities may involve:
 - Contributing to the formulation of peer-reviewed research grant proposals;
 - Initiating and sustaining links with external bodies to foster collaboration.

This role will additionally require the Research Officer to:

- Play a constructive role in the life of PSSRU;
- Manage the activities of research assistants on a day-to-day basis should this be required.

**Note**

The LSE has a progressive pay structure that rewards you with annual pay increases up to a certain level as you develop in your role. We also provide for further reward past this point in the form of further pay increases based on exceptional performance.

Flexibility

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility is needed, and the post holder may be required to perform work not specifically referred to above.

Equality and Diversity

LSE believes that equality for all is a basic human right. We actively encourage diversity and inclusion, while opposing all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

Environmental Sustainability

The post holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of the role, and actively contribute to the delivery of the LSE Environmental Policy.